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Note

Characterization of graphs with equal bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth<sup>☆</sup>Peter C.B. Lam<sup>\*</sup>, W.C. Shiu, W.H. Chan*Department of Mathematics, Hong Kong Baptist University, 224 Waterloo Road, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong, People's Republic of China*

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**Abstract**

$B(G)$  and  $B_c(G)$  denote the bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth of graph  $G$ , respectively. In this paper, we shall give a characterization of graphs with equal bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth. Those graphs include any plane graph  $G$  with  $B(G) < p/m$ , where  $p$  and  $m$  are the number of vertices and the maximum degree of bounded faces of  $G$ , respectively. Hence convex triangulation meshes  $T_{m,n,l}$  with  $\min\{m, n, l\} \geq 4$  and grids  $P_m \times P_n$  with  $m \geq 3$  also fall in this class. © 2002 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

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**1. Introduction**

In this paper,  $G = (V, E)$  shall be a graph of order  $p$ . A one-to-one mapping from  $V$  onto  $\{1, 2, \dots, p\}$  is called a *numbering* of  $G$ .

**Definition 1.1.** Suppose  $f$  is a numbering of  $G$ . Let  $B(G, f) = \max_{uv \in E} |f(u) - f(v)|$ . The bandwidth of  $G$ , denoted by  $B(G)$ , is

$$\min_f \{B(G, f) : f \text{ is a numbering of } G\}.$$

A numbering  $f$  of  $G$  satisfying  $B(G) = B(G, f)$  is called an optimal numbering of  $G$ .

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<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding author.

E-mail address: [cblam@math.hkbu.edu.hk](mailto:cblam@math.hkbu.edu.hk) (P.C.B. Lam).

**Definition 1.2.** Suppose  $f$  is a numbering of  $G$ . Let  $B_c(G, f) = \max_{uv \in E} \|f(u) - f(v)\|_c$ , where  $\|x\|_c = \min\{|x|, p - |x|\}$  for  $0 < |x| < p$ . The cyclic bandwidth of  $G$ , denoted by  $B_c(G)$ , is defined as

$$B_c(G) = \min_f \{B_c(G, f) : f \text{ is a numbering of } G\}.$$

A numbering  $f$  of  $G$  satisfying  $B_c(G) = B_c(G, f)$  is called a cb-optimal numbering of  $G$ .

The bandwidth problem of graphs has a wide range of applications including sparse matrix computation, data structure, coding theory and circuit layout of VLSI designs (see [6]). The problem became very important since the mid-1960s — see [2] or [3]. In its original formulation, the problem is to lay vertices of a graph on a path in such a way so that the maximum distance between any two vertices connected by an edge is minimized. Besides a path, other candidates are also available, and at times may even be more appropriate. In [6,12], laying vertices on grids  $P_m \times P_n$  (product of two paths) and on a cycle  $C_n$ , respectively, are considered. When vertices are laid on a cycle, we get cyclic bandwidth (Definition 1.2), which we shall study in this paper.

For a graph  $G$  in general,  $B_c(G) \leq B(G) \leq 2B_c(G)$ , and both bounds are sharp. In [10], we obtained a sufficient condition for a graph to have equal bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth, namely graphs without *long cycles*. However, many graphs possess long cycles and yet their bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth are equal. For example, let  $G$  be a graph consisting of a cycle  $C$  and a vertex  $v$  which does not belong to the cycle, but is adjacent to one of the vertices of the cycle. In this paper, we shall give a necessary and sufficient conditions for a graph to have equal bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth.

In Sections 2 and 3, we introduce the concept of *zero/non-zero cycles* and *proper realignment*, respectively. In Section 4, we use these concepts to show that bandwidth is equal to cyclic bandwidth for a graph with a cb-optimal numbering containing no non-zero cycles. Finally, we show also that convex triangulation meshes  $T_{m,n,l}$  with  $\min\{m, n, l\} \geq 6$  and grids  $P_m \times P_n$  with  $m \geq 5$  fall in this class. For notation and terminology of graph theory, please refer to the book of Bondy and Murty [1] and Grimaldi [5] unless defined otherwise.

## 2. Zero and non-zero cycles

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $f$  be a numbering of  $G$ . For any  $u, v \in V$  such that  $uv \in E$ , the cyclic displacement of the numbering  $f$  from  $u$  to  $v$ , denoted by  $d_f(u, v)$ , is  $f(v) - f(u) + p\delta_{v,u}$ , where

$$\delta_{v,u} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |f(v) - f(u)| \leq p/2, \\ 1 & \text{if } f(v) - f(u) < -p/2, \\ -1 & \text{if } f(v) - f(u) > p/2. \end{cases}$$

Note that  $\|f(v) - f(u)\|_c = |d_f(u, v)|$ .

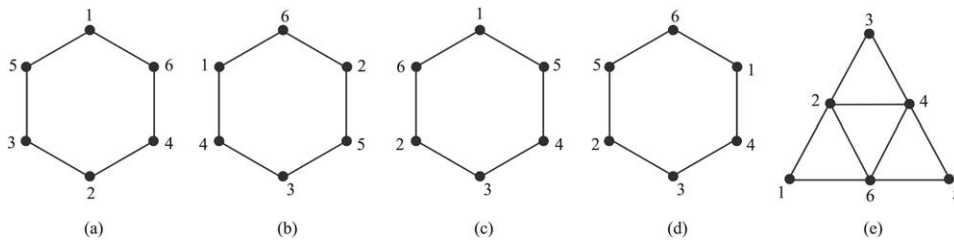


Fig. 1.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $f$  be a numbering of  $G$  and  $C: v_1 v_2 \dots v_k v_{k+1} = v_1$  a cycle in  $G$ . The total cyclic displacement of the numbering  $f$  on  $C$ , denoted by  $S_C$ , is the sum of cyclic displacements of edges in  $C$ .

It is easy to see that  $S_C = \lambda p$ , where  $\lambda$  is an integer. We call the cycle  $C$  a *zero cycle* of  $f$  if  $\lambda = 0$ ; otherwise, we call  $C$  a *non-zero cycle* of  $f$ . For examples, the 6-cycle is a zero cycle of the numberings indicated in Figs. 1(a) and (b), and is a non-zero cycle of the numberings indicated in Figs. 1(c) and (d).

### 3. Proper realignment

**Definition 3.1.** Suppose  $f$  is a numbering of  $G$ . A one-to-one mapping  $g$  from  $V$  into  $\mathbb{N}$  is called a *proper realignment* of  $f$  if

$$|g(v) - g(u)| \leq \|f(v) - f(u)\|_c, \quad \text{for any } uv \in E.$$

The following lemma on proper realignment can be found in [10].

**Lemma 3.2.** Suppose  $f$  is a numbering of a tree  $T$ . Then there exists a proper realignment of  $f$ .

We can construct a proper realignment of  $f$  by the following steps:

1. Choose a vertex  $v \in V$ . Set  $S = \{v\}$  and put  $g(v) = f(v)$ .
2.  $T[S]$  is a tree. For any  $v \in N(S)$ , there exists  $u \in S$  which is adjacent to  $v$ . This  $u$  is also unique, because  $T$ , being a tree, contains no cycles and two vertices in  $S$  cannot be both adjacent to  $v$ . Put  $g(v) = g(u) + d_f(u, v)$ .
3. Put  $S = S \cup \{v\}$ . If  $S \neq V$ , then go to (2). Otherwise, stop.

The remark follow Lemma 3.2:

**Remark 3.1.** (1) If  $u$  and  $v$  are two vertices in  $V[T]$ , then  $g(u) \neq g(v)$ .  
 (2) If  $vu \in E[T]$ , then  $g(v) - g(u) = d_f(u, v)$ .

#### 4. Characterization of graphs with equal bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth

**Theorem 4.1.** *Suppose  $G$  is a graph. There exists a cb-optimal numbering  $f$  of  $G$  containing no non-zero cycles if and only if  $B_c(G) = B(G)$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose  $G$  is a graph and  $f$  is a cb-numbering of  $G$  containing no non-zero cycles. We take an arbitrary spanning tree  $T$  from  $G$  and then construct a proper realignment of  $f$  by the Proper Realignment Algorithm. For any  $vu \in E[T]$ , it is clear that  $|g(v) - g(u)| \leq B_c(T, f) \leq B_c(G, f) = B_c(G)$ . If we can also show that  $|g(v) - g(u)| \leq B_c(G)$  for any  $vu \in E[G] \setminus E[T]$ , then we have  $B_c(G) = B(G)$ .

Now let  $e = vu \in E[G] \setminus E[T]$  and  $C = u_1u_2 \dots u_mu_{m+1}$ , where  $u_1 = u_{m+1} = v$  and  $u_m = u$ , be a cycle in  $E[T] + e$ . Then from Remark 3.1(2) in Section 3, we have

$$S_C = \sum_{i=1}^m d_f(u_i, u_{i+1}) = d_f(u, v) + g(u) - g(v).$$

Since all cycles in  $G$  are zero cycles, therefore  $S_C = 0$  and

$$|g(u) - g(v)| = |-d_f(u, v)| \leq B_c(G)$$

Conversely, suppose  $h$  is an optimal numbering of  $G$  and  $B(G) = B_c(G)$ . Since  $B_c(G) \leq p/2$ , we have  $|h(v) - h(u)| \leq p/2$  and hence  $d_h(u, v) = h(v) - h(u)$  for any  $uv \in E$ . Moreover,  $\|h(v) - h(u)\|_c = |d_h(u, v)| = |h(v) - h(u)| \leq B(G) = B_c(G)$ . Therefore,  $h$  is also a cb-optimal numbering of  $G$ . Also, for any cycle  $C: v_1v_2 \dots v_nv_{n+1}$  in  $G$ , where  $v_{n+1} = v_1$ , we have

$$S_C = \sum_{i=1}^n d_h(v_i, v_{i+1}) = \sum_{i=1}^n h(v_{i+1}) - h(v_i) = 0.$$

So  $h$  is a cb-optimal numbering of  $G$  containing no non-zero cycles.  $\square$

Because trees are acyclic, we obtain the following result of [10] from Theorem 4.1 as a corollary.

**Corollary 4.2.** *If  $T$  is a tree, then  $B_c(T) = B(T)$ .*

It is known that the problem of determining the bandwidth of a graph is NP-complete even when it is restricted to trees with maximum degree three [6]. Therefore the following corollary, a main result of [12], holds.

**Corollary 4.3.** *The problem of determining the cyclic bandwidth of a graph is NP-complete.*

## 5. Graphs with equal bandwidth and cyclic bandwidth

Because the problem of determining the cyclic bandwidth of a graph is NP-complete, it is in general very difficult to obtain a cb-optimal numbering of a given graph  $G$ , not to mention the requirement of containing no non-zero cycles. However, in this section, we demonstrate that in some graphs, in addition to trees, a cb-optimal numbering containing no non-zero cycles exists. So Theorem 4.1 is applicable to some graphs containing cycles.

**Lemma 5.1.** *Suppose  $G$  is a graph and  $f$  is a numbering of  $G$ . If there exists a non-zero  $n$ -cycle of  $f$  in  $G$ , then  $nB_c(G, f) \geq p$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $C: v_1v_2 \dots v_nv_{n+1}$ , where  $v_{n+1} = v_1$ , be a non-zero cycle in  $G$  of  $f$ . Then

$$p \leq |S_C| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |d_f(v_i, v_{i+1})| = \sum_{i=1}^n \|f(v_i) - f(v_{i+1})\|_c \leq nB_c(G, f). \quad \square$$

Given a cycle  $C$  of a plane graph  $G$ , an edge is called an *internal edge* of  $C$  if it lies inside  $C$ . A path is called an *internal path* if it consists of internal edges of  $C$  solely.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Suppose  $G$  is a plane graph and  $f$  is a numbering of  $G$ . If the maximum degree of bounded faces of  $G$  is not greater than  $m$ , then either all cycles are zero cycles of  $f$ , or there exists a non-zero cycle of  $f$  with length  $m$  or less.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $C: u_1u_2 \dots u_lu_{l+1}$ , where  $u_{l+1} = u_1$ , is a non-zero cycle of  $f$  enclosing  $k$  faces. If  $k = 1$ , or if  $k \geq 2$  and there is no internal path joining any two vertices of  $C$ , then clearly  $l \leq m$ .

Suppose  $k \geq 2$  and there is an internal path  $u_1v_2 \dots v_mu_i$  joining  $u_1$  to  $u_i$ , where  $2 \leq i \leq l$ . Consider the two cycles  $C': u_1v_2 \dots v_mu_iu_{i+1} \dots u_lu_{l+1}$  and  $C^*: u_1u_2 \dots u_iv_mv_{m-1} \dots v_2u_1$ . Noting that  $d_f(u, v) = -d_f(v, u)$ , we can show that

$$S_C = S_{C'} + S_{C^*}.$$

Since  $S_C \neq 0$ , therefore either  $S_{C'} \neq 0$  or  $S_{C^*} \neq 0$ . In either case, we get a non-zero cycle of  $f$  enclosing at most  $k - 1$  faces. This process can continue until we get a non-zero cycle of  $f$  enclosing 1 face or having no internal paths joining any two vertices of the cycle.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.3.** *Suppose  $G$  is a plane graph and the maximum degree of bounded faces is not greater than  $m$ . If  $B(G) \leq \lceil p/m \rceil$ , then  $B_c(G) = B(G)$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose  $B_c(G) < B(G)$  and  $f$  is a cb-optimal numbering of  $G$ . By Theorem 4.1 and Lemma 5.2,  $f$  contains a non-zero cycle of length  $m$  or less. By Lemma 5.1,

$mB_c(G) \geq p$ . It follows that  $p/m \leq B_c(G)$  and consequently  $\lceil p/m \rceil < B(G)$ . The contradiction shows that  $B_c(G) = B(G)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 5.4.** A plane graph  $G$  whose bounded faces are all of degree  $m$  is called an  $m$ -gonal graph. If  $m = 3$ ,  $G$  is called a triangulated graph.

**Theorem 5.5.** Suppose  $G$  is an  $m$ -gonal graph with  $B(G) \leq \lceil p/m \rceil$ . Then  $B_c(G) = B(G)$ .

**Corollary 5.6.** If  $G$  is a triangulated graph and  $B(G) \leq p/3$ , then  $B_c(G) = B(G)$ .

The product of two paths  $P_m$  and  $P_n$  is called an  $mn$ -grid. Because the bandwidth of an  $mn$ -grid is  $\min\{m, n\}$  by [4], the following corollary holds.

**Corollary 5.7.** If  $G$  is an  $mn$ -grid with  $n \geq m \geq 3$ , then  $B_c(G) = B(G)$ .

The definition of a convex triangulation mesh  $T_{m,n,l}$  was given in [11]. Because the bandwidth of a convex triangulation mesh  $T_{m,n,l}$  is  $\min\{m, n, l\}$  by [7,11], the next corollary follows.

**Corollary 5.8.** For all convex triangulation meshes  $T_{m,n,l}$  with  $\min\{m, n, l\} \geq 4$ , we have  $B_c(T_{m,n,l}) = B(T_{m,n,l})$ .

Note that  $B_c(T_{m,n,l}) \neq B(T_{m,n,l})$  if  $m = n = l = 3$ . The numbering of  $G^* = T_{3,3,3}$  indicated in Fig. 1(e) shows that  $B_c(G^*) \leq 2$ , whereas  $B(G^*) = 3$  by [7].

## 6. Uncited references

[8,9,13]

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